

## ECOSYSTEM STATUS INDICATORS

### Habitat

#### HAPC Biota – Bering Sea

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Groups considered to be Habitat Area of Particular Concern (HAPC) biota include: seapens/whips, corals, anemones, and sponges. Corals are rarely encountered on the Bering Sea shelf so were not included here. It is difficult to detect trends of HAPC groups on the Bering Sea shelf from the Resource Assessment and Conservation Engineering (RACE) bottom trawl survey results from 1982 to 2005 because of the relatively large variability in CPUE (Figure 37). Further research on the life history characteristics of these organisms is needed to interpret these trends.

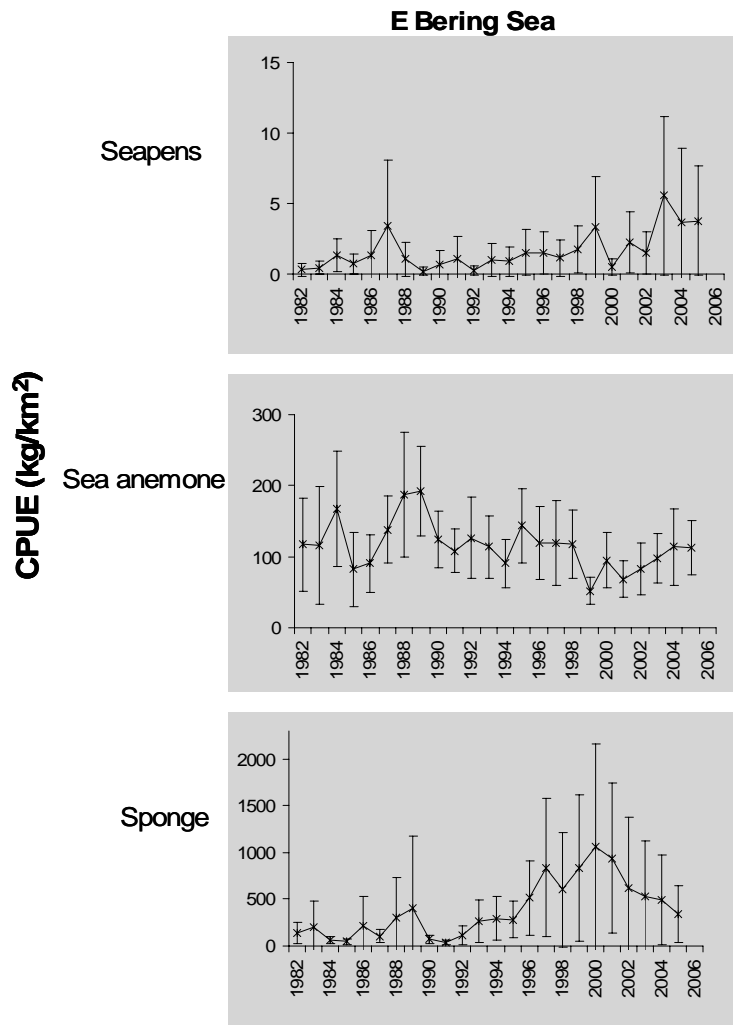


Figure 37. Catch per unit effort (CPUE) trends of HAPC biota from the Resource Assessment and Conservation Engineering (RACE) bottom trawl survey of the Bering Sea shelf, 1982-2005. Data points are shown with 95% confidence intervals.